

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BELGRA 05121 281709Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00
INRE-00 DHA-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07
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FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1757
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
USMISSION NATO
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME

C O N F I D E N T I A L BELGRADE 5121

DEPT FOR EUR/RPM, EUR/SOV

FROM USDEL CSCE

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: CSCE
SUBJECT: CSCE BELGRADE: CONTACT GROUP MEETING EVENING JULY 27

1. CONTACT GROUP MEETING EVENING OF JULY 27 CONCENTRATED
ON ORGANIZATIONAL POINT 13. SOVIETS REITERATED SHARPLY
THAT THEY COULD GO NO FARTHER TOWARD COMPROMISE ON DURA-
TION ISSUE THAN THEIR SUGGESTED REVISION TO FINAL SENTENCE
OF POINT 13:

".....THE MEETING WILL BE RESUMED ON 16 JANUARY 1978 FOR UP
TO ONE MONTH TO COMPLETE THE DRAFTING OF THE CONCLUDING DOCU-
MENT. THE MEETING WILL END BY ADOPTING A CONCLUDING DOCU-
MENT AND BY FIXING THE DATE AND PLACE OF THE NEXT MEETING".
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2. WESTERN AND NEUTRAL REPS, PLUS ROMANIAN REP, ARGUED FORCE-
FULLY FOR RETAINING THE VERY SLIGHT ADDITIONAL AMBIGUITY IN
THE PRESENT NEUTRAL AND NON-ALINGED (NNA) FORMULATION OF
FINAL SENTENCE:

".....IT WILL NOT END ITS WORK WITHOUT HAVING ADOPTED A

CONCLUDING DOCUMENT AND WITHOUT HAVING FIXED THE DATE AND PLACE OF THE NEXT SIMILAR MEETING".

WESTERN, NNA, AND ROMANIAN REPS INDICATED THAT IT WAS POSSIBLE THE MEETING WOULD NEED A FEW MORE DAYS TO COMPLETE ITS WORK, AND FOR THIS REASON IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE TO SET A FIRM CUT-OFF AT THIS TIME. DUTCH REP SAID HIS INSTRUCTIONS WOULD NOT PERMIT HIM TO ACCEPT A POSITIVE FORMULATION, SUCH AS SOVIET VERSION. MALTESE REP SUGGESTED AS ALTERNATIVE TO SOVIET FORMULA "THE MEETING WILL END ON ADOPTION OF...", AND CANADIAN REP SUGGESTED "THE MEETING WILL END ITS WORK AFTER HAVING ADOPTED...." BUT SOVIET REP IMMEDIATELY REJECTED BOTH THESE FORMULATIONS.

3. DURING COURSE OF DISCUSSION US REP EXPLAINED WHY WE FELT PRINCIPLE OF CONSENSUS SHOULD BE REAFFIRMED IN THIS FINAL PHRASE. US REP SAID THAT IMPOSITION OF A CUT-OFF DATE WOULD HAVE EFFECT OF UNDERCUTTING CONSENSUS RULE, SINCE MEETING COULD END BEFORE RESULTS WERE FULLY SATISFACTORY TO ALL PARTICIPANTS. FOR THIS REASON WE BELIEVED THE RULE OF CONSENSUS SHOULD BE REAFFIRMED IN CONNECTION WITH THE FORMULATION ON CLOSING THE MEETING. SOVIET REP REPEATED THAT HE COULD NOT ACCEPT "BY CONSENSUS" IN FINAL SENTENCE OF POINT 13, BUT OFFERED TO INCLUDE IT IN AGENDA POINT WOYBHEVMBMJXN (TIONS OF CONCLUDING DOCUMENT). HOWEVER, SEVERAL OTHER REPS, INCLUDING SPAIN, MALTA AND ROMANIA, URGED US REP NOT TO

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INSIST ON REITERATION OF CONSENSUS PRINCIPLE IN CONNECTION WITH A SINGLE POINT, SINCE THIS WOULD IMPLY THAT CONSENSUS MIGHT NOT BE NECESSARY ON OTHER POINTS. ALL REPS (INCLUDING ALLIES, WHO APPROACHED US PRIVATELY ON THIS ISSUE) POINTED OUT THAT CONSENSUS RULE APPLIES TO ALL DECISIONS TAKEN IN CSCE, AND URGED US NOT TO INSIST ON INTRODUCING THIS PHRASE IN CONNECTION WITH CLOSURE OF MEETING.

4. CONTACT GROUP MEETING INCLUDED SEVERAL FORCEFUL AND FRANK STATEMENTS BY WESTERN AND NNA DELS TO SOVIETS POINTING OUT THAT OVERWHELMING MAJORITY OF DELS PREFERRED AVOIDING A FIRM CUT-OFF DATE, AND THAT IT WAS THEREFORE UP TO THE SOVIETS TO MAKE A MOVE TOWARD THE MAJORITY VIEW. TOWARD END OF MEETING AUSTRIAN REP ASKED IF EVERYONE COULD REQUEST INSTRUCTIONS FROM CAPITALS ON SOVIET-PROPOSED SENTENCE. ROMANIAN REP REFUSED, BUT OFFERED TO ASK FOR INSTRUCTIONS ON CANADIAN FORMULATION MENTIONED IN PARA 2 ABOVE.

5. MEETING ADJOURNED LATE JULY 27 WITH AGREEMENT TO CONTINUE MORNING OF JULY 28.

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Control Number: n/a
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Sent Date: 28-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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TAGS: PARM, YO, CSCE
To: STATE
Type: TE
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